

ABSTRACT

A method for speech synthesis of a word in a first language, comprising dividing the word into a first sequence of pronunciation phonemes in the first language, mapping the first phoneme sequence to a second sequence of pronunciation phonemes in at least one second language, and generating an audio output of the phonemes in the second phoneme sequence using prosody models adapted for the at least one second language. According to this method, an audio output of a word in a first language can be generated by a speech synthesizing engine not having actual support for this language. Instead, the pronunciation phonemes of the word are mapped onto phonemes of at least one second language, for which the speech synthesizing engine does have support.